

REGULAR MEETING

WEDNESDAY

7:00 P.M.

May 6, 2015

This Regular Meeting of Council was called to order on the above-stated date at the above-stated time after the Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence by President of Council Richard Dellapenna with the following Members of Council present:

RC-1 PRESENT: KEITH SOLES, FAWN WALKER-MONTGOMERY, JAMIE BREWSTER-FILOTEI, JAMES BARRY, DANIEL CARR, RICHARD DELLAPENNA, DALE McCALL

Also present were Mayor Michael Cherepko, City Administrator Matthew Gergely, City Solicitor J. Jason Elash and members of the Administration.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION: Mr. Barry moved, seconded by Mr. Soles, "To approve the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting of April 1, 2015."

RC-2	YEAS:	SOLES, WALKER-MONTGOMERY, BREWSTER-FILOTEI, BARRY, CARR, DELLAPENNA, McCALL	7
	NAYS:	NONE.....	0

COMMUNICATIONS:

- Received the Fire Department Report for April 2015 from Chief List.
- Received the Police Department Report for April 2015 from Bryan J. Washowich, Chief of Police.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

- Mayor Cherepko said he will be brief this month. He said there are just a couple of announcements. He said some of them may have read the newspaper the other day and he spoke with Council some time ago about this. He said the article was about the Spray Park in Renzie. He said the wading pool has been closed for quite some time now and they are really excited to get the spray park up and running so it can be utilized by their youth. He said in addition to that, the basketball courts were a project designated for last year. He said the City will be upgrading all of the basketball courts behind the Fire Station. He said there are at least two full courts in addition to some sizes for some smaller children. He said the project got held up last year because they had to address an issue with the sewer lines in the Hall Park area. He said they had to dig up the entire parking lot for the repairs, and they did not want to pave everything and then have the sewage authority dig it up after it was done, so they postponed the paving until they completed the repairs. He said they will be addressing that project as well. He said he has been communicating with Coach Grayson and a few others who have been talking about bringing some basketball leagues and clinics in, so they are very excited to utilize the new courts and give the youth and young adults a place to go and burn off some of that energy they have.

- Mayor Cherepko said the GTech projects were up and running this week. He said the first one started at the corner of Versailles and Coursin. He said there was a very nice turnout, probably 20 or more volunteers. He said they will have a lineup on their Facebook page for anyone who wants to volunteer and take part with that. He said it is exciting to see the community pull together to take a vacant lot in their particular area and make it a place that can be utilized. He said when they talk about working together for a better McKeesport, working together for a better neighborhood, this is a great example of just that. He said everyone is very excited and the first one went very well. He said if they get a chance to get out and get involved, he is sure they can use as many volunteers as they can get.
- Mayor Cherepko said also there were presentations on that. He said he thinks they were over this past month as well. He said he didn't know if anyone had a chance to get out there and see the presentations of these ambassadors, but he applauds their efforts and they have really put a lot of time into this. He said it is not just going out and doing some work and cleaning up. He said there has been a lot of planning involved and a lot of time put in to it by these ambassadors. He said he definitely applauds these ambassadors and their efforts in helping McKeesport a better place to live.
- Mayor Cherepko said he still cannot get into any details regarding a project, but it pretty much is going to go through. He said there is a brand new development on Versailles Avenue. He said it is new construction and taking down an entire block between Ohio and Craig Street. He said for those who don't know, that is at the stop sign where you turn down Ohio to go to Crawford Village. He said that entire block there will be coming down and they will see a brand new building, discount retail store. He said it is very exciting for the community. He said it will give them a place to go for their necessities. He said it is another development. He said

it is not the homerun where they bring in hundreds of jobs, but they continue to see business development in the City and growth. He said they are seeing the City being alive. He said in addition to that, on Bill #96 this evening, there is another small business who is taking a lot that has been vacant on East Fifth Avenue and they are going to build a little building and open a little car lot down next to the Dunkin Donuts. He said as they can see, the lots are disappearing on Lysle Boulevard and that is a good sign. He said between all of the businesses who have come in and the existing businesses that reinvested in their particular locations, without question, the City is on the right path. He said he applauds their efforts as Council and the Administration especially with their work on Versailles. He said A.J. put a lot of time in communicating with the developer. He said they are looking at the bigger things too. He said they have some things lined up right now and he is hoping in another month or two they can make an announcement that could be huge for the City.

- Mayor Cherepko said the Letter Carriers Food Drive is Saturday, May 9. He said he has a flyer here. He said they can leave some canned goods out and they will take them.
- Mayor Cherepko said also this summer they will be working on some tennis clinics out at the tennis courts. He said they have a resident who is extremely interested in putting this together and is working with the City. He said he thinks it will be something else to offer kids to do. He said he told her they would do it this year and if all goes well, they will work on getting those tennis courts done for next year and she may be able to continue her clinics next year with brand new tennis courts as well.
- Mayor Cherepko said he just wanted to update them on a few of the things that are going on in McKeesport. He said they talked Tuesday night more in depth about everything. He said he would be brief this evening and that concludes his

report.

CITIZENS IN THE AUDIENCE:

No one signed up to speak.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION #2015-15 – BILL #96: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF McKEESPORT, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, APPROVING THE SITE PLAN SUBMITTED BY JIM THRIFT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW BUILDING TO BE USED AS A CAR DEALERSHIP AT 2601 FIFTH AVENUE.

MOTION: Mr. Soles moved, seconded by Mr. Barry, "To adopt Bill #96."

RC-3	YEAS:	SOLES, WALKER-MONTGOMERY, BREWSTER-FILOTEI, BARRY, CARR, DELLAPENNA, McCALL	7
	NAYS:	NONE.....	0

RESOLUTION #2015-16 – BILL #97: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF McKEESPORT, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, PROVIDING FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE McKEESPORT TRAIL COMMISSION.

MOTION: Ms. Walker-Montgomery moved, seconded by Ms. Brewster-Filotei, "To adopt Bill #97."

- Mayor Cherepko said he would just like to reiterate as he did last evening without going into all the details, that he applauds Jamie on this. He said he is sorry, they are not there yet, this is a different Bill. He said he apologizes, they are on the Trail Commission. He said Ms. Allen is here and she is a member on the Commission. He said he had the Bills out of order and he apologizes. He said Ms. Allen is one of the Board re-appointments to the Trail. He said he thanks her for her service.

- Mr. Soles abstained because his wife is one of the members there.

MOTION: Mr. Soles moved, seconded by Mr. Barry, "To adopt Bill #98."

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RESOLUTION #2015-18 – BILL #99: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF McKEESPORT, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF THE FIVE YEAR CONSOLIDATED PLAN, FY 2015 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN, AND THE ANALYSIS OF IMPEDIMENTS TO FAIR HOUSING CHOICE FOR FUNDING, KNOWN AS B-15-MC-42-0106, UNDER TITLE I OF THE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1974 (PUBLIC LAW 93-383) AS AMENDED.

MOTION: **Mr. McCall moved, seconded by Ms. Brewster-Filotei, "To adopt Bill #96."**

COMMENTS:

- Ms. Walker-Montgomery said she would like the Mayor to explain what this Resolution is for the people who were not here last night and that this is about the Community Development Block Grant.
- Mayor Cherepko said they do have Mr. Tedesco here as well this evening. He said with the Community Development Block Grant, the City needs to present a five-year plan every five years. He said they bring in a firm to work with them on that. He said what Council is voting on tonight is the five year plan. He said it is something that has been going on for quite some time and he applauds Mr. Tedesco in getting this completed and working with the firm.
- Ms. Walker-Montgomery said is this plan available to the public.
- Mayor Cherepko said absolutely, as with any document.
- Mr. Dellapenna said he would like to commend Mr. Tedesco for all the work he has put into this.

RC-6 YEAS: SOLES, WALKER-MONTGOMERY, BREWSTER-FILOTEI, BARRY, CARR, DELLAPENNA, McCALL 7

NAYS: NONE..... 0

RESOLUTION #2015-19 – BILL#100: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF McKEESPORT, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, ENDORSING THE McKEESPORT MILITARY BANNER PROGRAM IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE BURT FOSTER AMERICAN LEGION POST 361 OF McKEESPORT.

MOTION: Mr. McCall moved, seconded by Mr. Barry, “To adopt Bill #100.”

COMMENTS:

- Mayor Cherepko said he apologizes because he jumped the gun earlier. He said he does applaud Jamie and her efforts on this. He said the City will be honoring Veterans. He said any family member who wants to get a picture of someone in their family who is a Veteran and honor them, they will be hanging them from their poles. He said they may have seen this in other communities ... West Mifflin, Castle Shannon, Dravosburg. He said they are really looking to kick this off. He said it is great and he is glad that Jamie brought this to their attention. He said he is excited. He said all too often they forget and take it for granted that they live in the greatest country in the world. He said every opportunity the City gets to honor their Veterans, they should take advantage of those opportunities. He said this is just another way of saying thank you and another way of honoring the families who may have lost loved ones and who have some who are still living. He said Mr. McCall talked about last night getting one of these. He said he knows Mr. Barry mentioned the 11 Vietnam Veterans from the Boys and Girls Club. He said he thinks this is exciting and great for the community and the families and obviously great for the men and women who served our Great Country. He said he thanks Jamie for her work on this.

- Ms. Brewster-Filotei said thank you to everyone for their support. She said it is truly an honor to do something like this and she is really excited.
- Mr. Barry said he thinks it is great too and is a great tribute to the true heroes in the City. He said the fact that they are going to fly from Memorial Day to Veteran's Day is so appropriate. He said good work.
- Ms. Brewster-Filotei said they cannot really do this without a Legion. She said she could not do this herself, she had to have it with a VFW or American Legion. She said being able to Bobby with the Burt Foster Legion was something they were looking into too. She said she is real excited. She said she spoke with the company today and they were giggling. She said they had her on speaker phone and were excited to do it too.
- Mayor Cherepko said the cost is \$100. He said in addition to the banners they get for the poles, they will also get two keepsakes for themselves to put in frames at home.
- Ms. Brewster-Filotei said even though she is probably going to have to add Mr. Rosso to her Christmas list.

RC-7 YEAS: SOLES, WALKER-MONTGOMERY, BREWSTER-FILOTEI, BARRY, CARR, DELLAPENNA, McCALL 7

 NAYS: NONE..... 0

ORDINANCE #15-8 – BILL #101: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF McKEESPORT, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 1835, APPROVED JANUARY 7, 1949, AS AMENDED, TO AMEND THE RETIREMENT SYSTEM FOR THE OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEE

PENSION PLAN OF THE CITY OF McKEESPORT TO REFLECT CHANGES RESULTING FROM COLLECTIVE BARGAINING.

MOTION: **Mr. Soles moved, seconded by Ms. Brewster-Filotei, "To adopt Bill #101."**

COMMENTS:

- Mayor Cherepko said just for the public's information, there was language in the Pension Document that was not in compliance with the bargaining agreement signed years ago. He said all they are doing is some housecleaning and cleaning up some things that were errors. He said this is going back as far as the early 2000 or late 1990's. He said this is just to mirror that and it goes in with the calculation of the Pension Fund. He said the Bargaining Unit said it would be the average salary for the top 12 months of the final 60 months' work. He said that his the top 12 months of the final five years which is most cases will be the last year of work. He said they had it as the final 12 months. He said if someone made more money prior to the last 12 months, then they would not have been in compliance. He said in most cases it will not change anything.

RC-8 YEAS: SOLES, WALKER-MONTGOMERY, BREWSTER-FILOTEI, BARRY, CARR, DELLAPENNA, McCALL 7

NAYS: NONE..... 0

ORDINANCE #15-9 – BILL #102: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF McKEESPORT, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 87-22, AS AMENDED TO AMEND THE COMBINED PENSION PLAN OF THE CITY OF McKEESPORT, TO REFLECT CHANGES RESULTING FROM COLLECTIVE BARGAINING.

MOTION: **Mr. McCall moved, seconded by Mr. Barry, "To adopt Bill #102."**

RC-9 YEAS: SOLES, WALKER-MONTGOMERY, BREWSTER-FILOTEI, BARRY, CARR, DELLAPENNA, McCALL 7

NAYS: NONE..... 0

AMEND THE AGENDA:

MOTION: Mr. Barry moved, seconded by Mr. Soles, "To amend the Agenda to include Bill #103."

RC-10 YEAS: SOLES, WALKER-MONTGOMERY, BREWSTER-FILOTEI, BARRY, CARR, DELLAPENNA, McCALL 7

NAYS: NONE..... 0

RESOLUTION #2015-20 – BILL #103: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF McKEESPORT, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, PROVIDING FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE McKEESPORT HOUSING AUTHORITY.

MOTION: Mr. Barry moved, seconded by Ms. Walker-Montgomery, "To adopt Bill #103."

RC-11 YEAS: SOLES, WALKER-MONTGOMERY, BREWSTER-FILOTEI, BARRY, CARR, DELLAPENNA, McCALL 7

NAYS: NONE..... 0

CONTROLLER'S REPORT:

- Mr. Dellapenna said the Controller is in the hospital due to an illness.

- Mayor Cherepko said he wanted to let everyone know that Mr. Walsh is doing well. He said they were doing tests but they did keep him in the hospital.
- Mr. Dellapenna said please keep Mr. Walsh in their prayers.

ADJOURNMENT:

President of Council Richard Dellapenna adjourned the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Annette James
City Clerk and Clerk of Council

APPROVED:

Richard Dellapenna
President of Council

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